

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please amend the Specification as follows:

Insert on page 1, between the Title and the heading
"Field of the Invention" the following paragraph:

Cross Reference to Related Application

This Application is a Divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/623,087, filed July 18, 2003, now U.S. Patent No. _____, which, in turn, was a Divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/288,689, filed November 5, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,623,811, which, in turn, was a Divisional of U.S. Patent Application 09/691,310 filed October 18, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,503,581.

Paragraph Nos. 5, 6 and 7, page 10:

5. The film described in any one of 1. through 4. above, having a thickness of 40 to 190 ~~nm~~ μm.
6. The film described in any one of 1. through 4. above, having a thickness of 60 to 190 ~~nm~~ μm.

7. The film described in any one of 1. through 4. above, having a thickness of 75 to 190 ~~nm~~ μm.

1st full paragraph, page 13.

The aforementioned optically anisotropic film wherein the retardation value (Rt value) represented by formula (II) is between ~~50~~ 60 and 300 nm.

Formula (II)

$$\frac{[(n_x + n_y)/2 - n_z] \times d}{\text{---}}$$

wherein n_x and n_y each represent refractive indices in the x direction, and in the y direction in the plane of the cellulose ester film support; n_z represents the refractive index of the film in the thickness direction; and d (in nm) represents the film thickness.

Amend Paragraph 6 on page 17 as follows:

An optically anisotropic film ~~in which~~ wherein luminescent points which are observed when two polarizing plates are provided on both surfaces of a cellulose ester film support so as to shield transmission

light, the number of said points having a size exceeding 50 μm is zero per 250 mm^2 , and the number of said points having a size of 5 to 50 μm is 200 or less per 250 mm^2 .

Insert on page 18, between the first and second paragraphs, the following paragraph:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Figure 1 is a schematic view of a liquid crystal display

Amend the paragraph bridging pages 20 and 21 as follows:

The substitution degree as described herein means the percentage (mols) of the amount of a so-called combined fatty acid, and preferably an average number of acyl groups bonding to one glucose unit in cellulose. The DSac is determined based on the measurement as well as the calculation of acetylation degree in ASTM-D817-91 (Test Method of Cellulose Acetate and the like). DSpr can be determined based on ASTM-D814-96. Further, the retardation value (Rt) in the ~~thickens~~ thickness direction of a fatty acid cellulose ester film is a positive value, and is between 60 and 300 nm. Further, it is possible to obtain Rt employing the formula described below:

Formula 1
$$Rt = [(nx + ny)/2 - nz] \times d$$

wherein nx represents the refractive index of a cellulose ester film in the maximum refractive index direction in the plane of a fatty acid cellulose ester film; ny represents the refractive index of a fatty acid cellulose ester film in the vertical direction with respect to the nx direction; nz represents the refractive index of a fatty acid cellulose ester film in the thickness direction; and d (in nm) represents the thickness of a fatty acid cellulose ester film.

Amend the 2nd full paragraph on page 21.

Further, R_t is preferably between 90 and 300 nm, is more preferably between 90 and 200 nm, is further more preferably between 90 and 175 nm, and is still further more preferably between 100 and 175 nm ~~mm~~. In addition, the R_t value of the present Invention can be obtained by determining refractive indices n_x , n_y , and n_z in such a manner that measurement of three-dimensional refractive index is carried out at a wavelength of 590 nm at 23°C and 50 percent relative humidity, employing an automatic double refractometer (for instance, a KOBRA-21ADH manufactured by Oji Keisokukiki Co., Ltd.).

Amend the 3rd paragraph on page 22 as follows:

Still further, the thickness of the fatty acid cellulose ester film is preferably between 40 and 190 μm , is more preferably between 60 and 190 μm , is further more preferably between 75 and 190 μm ~~mm~~, and still further more preferably between 75 and 150 μm .